

The Doctrine of Salvation

A 12 week study of the Ordo Salutis

July 1 - Sept. 9, 2018

The Doctrine of Salvation

1. Introduction to Soteriology
2. Election/Predestination
3. Atonement
4. Outward Call
5. Inward Call
6. Regeneration (the new birth)
7. Conversion (repentance)
8. Conversion (faith)
9. Justification
10. Sanctification
11. Glorification
12. Spirit Baptism: Where does it fall in the Ordo?

The Outward Call

- The necessity of preaching the Gospel.
- The necessity of preaching the Gospel to all nations/ethnicities.
- The outward call is the proclamation or preaching of the Gospel.
- The outward or external call is meant for all men everywhere and is often rejected.
- The internal call is given only to the elect and always brings salvation.
- Matthew 22:14 “For many are called, but few are chosen.”

The Necessity of the Outward Call

Romans 10

¹³ For “whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.”¹⁴ How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? ¹⁵ And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things! ¹⁶ But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “LORD, who has believed our report?” ¹⁷ So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

The Elements of the Gospel Call

- God's Holiness & Wrath

Matt. 5:48 Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.

Matt. 13:49 So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come forth, separate the wicked from among the just, and cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth.”

Matt. 25:46 And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

2 Thess. 1:9 These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power...

The Elements of the Gospel Call

- Man's Sinfulness

Romans 3:10 As it is written: "There is none righteous, no, not one;"

Romans 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

- Christ's Work of Redemption

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin *is* death, but the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Elements of the Gospel Call

- Call to believe Christ

James 2:19 You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble!

Mark 1:14 Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, ¹⁵ and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.”

Acts 20:21 testifying to Jews, and also to Greeks, repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

- The Assurance of Forgiveness and Reconciliation

Romans 10:13 Whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Responding to the Gospel Call

- Acknowledge Your Sin and Guilt before God

Luke 15:18 I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you.

- Abandon all Hope of Attaining Forgiveness by Good Works

Heb. 6:1 Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God,

- Repent - forsake self and sin

Isa. 55:7 Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; Let him return to the Lord, and He will have mercy on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

- Turn to Christ in Faith

Romans 10:9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

The Internal Call

- The effectual call, whereby God sovereignly summons the sinner out of spiritual death and into spiritual life.
- Romans 8:30 Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.
- John 6:44 No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.
- Acts 16:14 Now a certain woman named Lydia heard us. She was a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, who worshiped God. The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul.

The Internal Call

- A calling by the Word savingly applied by the operation of the Holy Spirit. 1 Cor. 1:23 but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, 24 but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.
- A powerful calling, that is, a calling that is effectual unto salvation. Acts 13:48 Now when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and glorified the word of the Lord. And as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed.
- It is a calling without repentance, that is, it is a call that is not subject to change and that is never withdrawn. Rom. 11:29 For the gifts and the calling of God *are* irrevocable.
- Berkhof, pg. 450

Characteristics of the Internal Call

- The power of the Holy Spirit persuading us effectively by the Word preached. John 10:27 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.
- A calling that operates within the conscious life of man, addressing the understanding, which when endowed by the Spirit with spiritual insight influences the will and desires so that the sinner turns to God. 1 Cor. 2:14 But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.
- It is a teleological calling, that is, it calls us to a certain end or conclusion: to fellowship with Christ (1 Cor. 1:9), to inherit blessing (1 Pet. 3:9), to liberty (Gal. 5:13), to peace (1 Cor. 7:25), to holiness (1 Thess. 4:7), to one hope (Eph. 4:4), to eternal life (1 Tim. 6:12), and to God's kingdom and glory (1 Thess. 2:12).
- Berkhof, pg. 452

Effectual Calling and Regeneration

- In Puritan and Reformed thought, the effectual calling and regeneration are so closely and necessarily related that they are usually combined in the ordo salutis as cause and effect.
- For example, MacArthur refers to the internal call as regeneration.
- Points of Difference:
 1. Regeneration is creative power, bringing new life. Calling is persuasive power to affect the desires.
 2. Regeneration comes from within, while the internal call must originate from an external source through the outward call then applied by the Spirit.

The Relative Order of Calling and Regeneration

1. The external call through the preaching of the Word precedes or coincides with the operation of the Holy Spirit to produce new life in the soul of man.
2. God, by creative power, generates the new life, changing the inner disposition of the soul, illuminating the mind, rousing the feelings, and renewing the will. Now the man can hear the internal call and respond to it.
3. The sinner, who can now hear the gospel call, desires to obey the call through repentance and faith and so yields to the persuasive influence of the Word through the operation of the Holy Spirit.
4. New life manifests itself in the fruits of regeneration, namely repentance and faith.